# **NAVAJO NATION**

**WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA** 

2001-2002 Grant Amount: \$10.3 Million

## **Navajo Youth Opportunity Program**

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### Mission and Vision

To promote values which will empower individuals to become productive and a contributing member of society. The purpose is to improve workforce development services by maximizing opportunities for eligible enrolled members and residents of the Navajo Nation Service Delivery area in compliance with applicable grant plans and mandates. To achieve this goal, YO will concentrate resources in to bring about community-wide impacts on employment rates, high school completion rates, and college enrollment rates.

## **Program Overview**

Navajo Nation is committed to ensuring that several core principles underline an effective youth strategy and include:

- Providing comprehensive services;
- Ensuring the participation of caring adults;
- A commitment to excellence;
- Guaranteeing long-term follow-up to all participants;
- Instilling in youth a sense of personal responsibility and accountability for their actions.

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES

- The YO program serves youth through five agency workforce centers and the Navajo Office of DINE Youth (ODY) located in Shiprock, NM; Crownpoint, NM Tuba City, AZ, Chinle, AZ; and Ft. Defiance, AZ.
- The YO program coordinates services with DINE College locations at satellite campuses located in Tsaile, Shiprock, Crownpoint, Window Rock, Chinle, Ganado, Tuba City and Kayenta.
- The YO program works with 17 high schools located throughout the reservation
- Community Involvement Specialists working in concert with the Navajo Division of Youth Services (NDYS) works with 110 chapters (communities) and the staff serve an instrumental role in the success of recruiting and working with youth in many of the isolated and rural communities.
- Curriculum has been developed through DINE College for equine and veterinary apprenticeship training.

#### **KEY PARTNERS/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

- Navajo Office of DINE Youth (ODY) operates five sub-offices and offers recreational activities such as Wilderness Adventure, traditional sports, family wellness and social wellness.
- **DINE College** operates at eight satellite campus sites and offers 16 program services including Summer and Fall Enrichment Programs
- Alamo Navajo & Tohajilee School Board, Inc., operates two centers and offers nine program services
- Shiprock Boys & Girls Club allows the use of their building and gym for the Shiprock YO site.
- Navajo Nation Youth Council and Local Workforce Investment Board
- United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY)
- The Navajo Nation YO works with the Navajo Nation Local Workforce Investment Board and the Youth Council